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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 47 of the First Extraordinary Session
By Womack

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the Bedford County Health Department and its staff members upon their receipt of the 1998 Health Department of the Year Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should commemorate those health facilities and their staff members who have responded to the needs of the public and have provided exceptional service; and

WHEREAS, The Bedford County Health Department is one such superlative health department that is deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Bedford County Health Department is the recipient of the distinguished 1998 Health Department of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award was presented to the Bedford County Health Department by State Health Officer Fredia Wadley, M.D.; and

WHEREAS, Bedford County was chosen for the award by the statewide committee of public health representatives from a field of 15 nominees; and

WHEREAS, Bedford County was honored for its delivery of full-service prenatal care to an increasing number of Hispanic patients; and

WHEREAS, the health department has applied for a grant from the March of Dimes to implement a Hispanic prenatal education program that will include hiring part-time interpreters.

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In the meantime, staff members have taken Spanish lessons to learn key phrases and words necessary to communicate with clients until an interpreter is available; and

WHEREAS, the Bedford County Health Department was also cited for its outreach efforts to increase EPSDT (early periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment) rates for children. Within a two-month period, Bedford County gave EPSDT exams to 40 percent of the children assigned to the department; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to honor and commend the Bedford County Health Department and its staff members for their undying commitment to providing quality health services; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate the Bedford County Health Department and its staff members upon their receipt of the 1998 Heath Department of the Year award, commend their efforts of providing excellent health care services and offer our thanks for their contributions to helping others.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.